

STEERING COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL  
April 17, 2000

*Participants by Region*

1        ☹  
2        Marian Mudar and Maria Rivera  
3        ☹  
4        Randy Wolf  
5        Mark Shanahan and Pam Christenson  
6        Dick Lehr and Laura Avant  
7        Janet Neff and Layli Terrill  
8        Cathy Heald  
9        Marcia Manley  
10      Sally Tarowsky  
EPA    Karen Brown, Bob Rose, Deb Elmore

**1.      Draft SBDC Partnership Proposal**

Pam Christenson received many comments from the states on the SBDC Partnership Proposals and compiled them into a letter to Sam Males, the Nevada SBDC Director who is heading up the proposal. Pam attempted to capture as many of the states' comments as possible in the letter, but could not speak for all of the states. The final letter that was sent to Mr. Males was sent to the Steering Committee members and should be forwarded to your respective states.

Ms. Christenson stated that she recommended (in the letter to Mr. Males) that they explore the possibility of the SBAPs to receive funding through the National Support Component portion of the proposal. As currently drafted, the National Support Component in the proposal will provide \$2-3 million to the Compliance Assistance Centers and the NPPR. What do others think about trying to get the SBAPs included in this funding as a way to support other SBAP partnership initiatives not included in the current pilot projects?

The SBDC Partnership Proposal is currently being redrafted. The time line for completion of the next draft is the end of April.

**2.      OECA's Annual Compliance Assistance Activity Plan - 2001**

Pam only received a handful of comments on OECA's Compliance Assistance Activity Plan. The Plan focuses on EPA becoming a "wholesaler" of compliance assistance information, passing the information on to the "retailers," which are the compliance assistance providers,

such as the SBO/SBAPs. Comments to EPA are due April 17, 2000. Ms. Christenson is compiling the comments she received and will be sending them to OECA.

### **3. National SBO/EPA Conference in Missoula, Montana.**

The planning is going along smoothly for the 2000 SBAP/SBO annual conference. Visit the conference website if you haven't already ([www.deq.state.mt.us/SBOconference](http://www.deq.state.mt.us/SBOconference)) to register on-line. If you are interested in after-hour activities, there is an option to check off on the registration form. You will then receive an E-mail describing the activities. Reserve your hotel room as soon as possible! The hotel is filling up!

Bob Rose mentioned that EPA sent out letters to all of the Ombudsmen regarding the CAP training that will be held on Monday June 19, 2000. Mr. Rose encouraged those who were interested in the CAP training to reserve a spot as soon as possible. An EPA grant will again fund the travel for one CAP member to attend from the states that chose to participate.

During the conference, the Steering Committee will designate the new representatives and alternates to the Steering Committee. Current representatives should begin talking with their states to determine who will serve on the committee for the next year. Ms. Christenson also stated that the Regional meetings will take place on Wednesday morning during the conference, which will provide a good opportunity to discuss this with your states.

**Next Meeting:            May 15, 2000            1 p.m. (Central Time)**